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LITTLEHAMPTON PORT
HEALTH AUTHORITY.

10, Bulkington Avenue,
WORTHING,
Sussex.

March 1950.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my annual report as Medical Officer of Health for the year 1949, prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health.

During the year 65 coastwise vessels with a tonnage of 13,588 entered the port, and 5 vessels with a tonnage of 931 arrived from foreign ports.

The following tables give details of the above arrivals:-

1. AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE PORT HEALTH DISTRICT DURING 1949.

TABLE A

		No.	Tonnage.	No. inspected by M.O.H.	S.I.	No. of vessels found with defects.	Vessels on which defects were remedied.
Coastwise.	Steam	6	1,751	-	6	1	1
	Motor	59	11,837	-	50	8	8
	Sailing	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total		65	13,588	-	56	9	9
Foreign.	Steam	1	332	-	1	-	-
	Motor	4	599	-	4	1	1
	Sailing	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total		5	931	-	5	1	1
Combined Total		70	14,519	-	61	10	10

11. CHARACTER OF TRADE OF PORT.

(a) Passenger Traffic. No passenger vessels entered the port during the year.

(b) (i) Cargo Traffic: No cargoes have been exported during the year. The following cargoes were imported :- Coal 29, Stone 35, Timber 4, Potatoes 2

(c) The foreign vessels arriving were from Sweden, Germany and Holland.

III. SOURCE OF WATER SUPPLY.

Towns water is laid on to wharves, and vessels can refill at any time without difficulty.

There are no Water Boats at this port.

IV. PORT SANITARY REGULATIONS, 1933 & 1945.

(1) and (2) Every foreign going vessel arriving from a foreign port is boarded by the Customs Officer immediately on arrival and the Captain asked to fill in and sign a Declaration of Health which is immediately sent to the Office of the Port Sanitary Officer.

(3) Any notification of an inward vessel requiring attention under Article 6 would be received through the Harbour Master and Pilots.

(4) A Mooring Station has been designated as required by Article 10 of the Regulations, and is situated immediately North of the Railway Quay, on the East side of the River Arun. It has been agreed with the Harbour Master that should this berth be in use when required for quarantine, an alternative berth will be found for the vessel then occupying it. The provision of an additional Mooring Station outside the Harbour is considered impracticable.

No vessel has been detained for medical examination during the year.

(5) No standing exemptions to the provisions of Article 14 have been granted.

(6) It has not been necessary to place any restriction under Section 16, on persons boarding or leaving vessels as, in every case, the Declarations of Health have been satisfactory.

(7) (a) No arrangements have been made for the cleansing and disinfection of persons, but clothing could be disinfected by steam by arrangement with the West Sussex County Council at the Central Laundry, Chichester, when required.

(b) No arrangements have been made for the provision of temporary accommodation of persons for whom such may be required under the regulations.

(c) No arrangements have been made for special premises and waiting room for medical examination. Such would have to be improvised when occasion arises.

(d) Smallpox cases in this region are now to be sent to Clandon Hospital, near Guilford. Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Enteric Fever and Encephalitis Lethargica could be isolated at the Isolation Hospital, Swandean. If any case of Plague, Cholera or Yellow Fever arrived on a vessel, special arrangements would have to be made.

(8) and (9) Specimens for bacteriological or pathological examination can be sent to any of the two or three local laboratories.

(10) Clinics for the treatment and diagnosis of venereal disease are held at the Worthing Hospital, Lyndhurst Road, Worthing, and the Royal Portsmouth Hospital (St.Mary's) Portsmouth, serving Eastern and Western parts of West Sussex respectively.

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No case of infectious sickness has been notified to the Port Medical Officer during the year.

TABLE D

No case of infectious sickness has occurred on vessels during the voyage and disposed of prior to arrival.

V. MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS.

(1) No special steps have been taken for the detection of Rodent Plague (a) in ships in the port (b) on quays, wharves, warehouses, etc., in the vicinity of the port.

(2) The Port Health Authority have provided Rat Guards and these are used when deemed necessary. No rat infested vessels have entered the port .

(3) Baiting and gassing of rats is periodically carried out in the neighbourhood of the wharves, and during the year a large number of rats were killed by operation in accordance with the Ministry of Food suggestions.

TABLES E & F

It is impossible to give a definite total of rats killed in and around the port, as gassing operations as well as poisoning with Zinc Phosphide, were carried out during the year.

On the bank of the river there is a portion of land used by the Council for controlled tipping, and this being the main infestation in the whole area has received constant attention during the year. Good results have been obtained with poisoning and gassing.

VI. HYGIENE OF CREW'S SPACES. TABLE J.

Nationality of Vessel:	No. inspected during the year:	Defects of original construction:	Structural defects thro' wear and tear:	Dirt, vermin and other conditions prejudicial to health:
British	56	-	1	8
Foreign	5	-	1	-

VII. FOOD INSPECTION.

The only foodstuffs entering the port were two cargoes of Potatoes.

SHELL-FISH.

There are some very small winkle beds at the mouth of the River Arun which are very little used as there are better and larger beds further East. No infection has been traced to the eating of Shell-fish during the year.

It has not been necessary to take any action under the

Public Health (Shell-fish) Regulations, 1934, or the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

No food samples have been submitted for analysis or bacteriological examination.

VIII. STAFF.

Mr.J.L.McGarry acts as Health Inspector for the Port of Littlehampton as well as for the Littlehampton Urban Districts.

I wish to express my appreciation of the work Mr.McGarry has carried out and also my thanks to the Officer in charge of the Customs for his co-operation at all times.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

R.H. WILSHAW.

Medical Officer of Health.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Littlehampton Port Health Authority.